



Press Release

Pierce County Sheriff's Department

Use of Deadly Force Investigation 11/28/2023.

Pierce County, WA December 29, 2023: Active Investigation. No updates.

Pierce County, WA December 22, 2023: Active Investigation. No updates.

Pierce County, WA December 15, 2023: Active Investigation. No updates.

Pierce County, WA December 8, 2023: Active Investigation. No updates.

Pierce County, WA. December 1, 2023:

James Salanoa Jr. has been confirmed by the Pierce County Medical Examiner's Office as the deceased person in the Deputy involved shooting on November 28, 2023.

Salanoa, a 22 year old Samoan male, is the suspect. Deputies were attempting to locate on this date. At the time of this incident, the Deputies were attempting to arrest him on Superior Court warrants for: Robbery 1, Kidnapping 1, Rape 1, Indecent Liberties, Assault 1 and Theft 2.

The ongoing investigation will be conducted by PCFIT with subsequent weekly press releases.

For Immediate Release 6:00 a.m. PST, December 1, 2023

On November 28th, 2023 members of the Pierce County Force Investigation Team responded to the area of 31st Av SW at SR 512 in the City of Puyallup to investigate a report of an officer involved shooting. While the investigation is still in the preliminary stages, the following synopsis was developed after interviewing witnesses, dispatch CAD notes, and physical evidence at the scene.

On November 28th, 2023, just before 3:00pm, Pierce County Deputies spotted a suspect that they had been working to locate in the area of the park and ride located off of 9th St SW and 31st Av SW. This person was wanted for a number of violent felony crimes.

Shortly after 3:00pm, Deputies attempted to stop the vehicle the suspect was in as it drove east on 31st Av SW. A short pursuit ensued and spike strips were deployed making contact with the vehicle tires. The vehicle came to rest in the roadway just to the east of SR512. Witnesses observed the wanted man exit the vehicle holding a firearm. Several deputies fired their weapons, striking the man, who was pronounced deceased at the scene.

Please contact Sgt. Charles Porche for additional information.

Sgt. Porche can be contacted at the numbers listed below for more information;

Office 253.830.5020

Cellular 253.606.7215

Fax 253.830.5069

cporche@cityoflakewood.us